PRODUCTION

Car output drops 11%; trucks even

By Kathy Boyer
AUTOMOTIVE NEWS STAFF REPORTER

Memorial Day closings and shutdowns for inventory control cut last week's scheduled U.S. auto and truck production from the levels of the prior week and the year-earlier week.

Weekly auto output is likely to continue at a reduced pace this summer, as several plants will be idled for model changeovers lasting longer than the usual one or two weeks. Those shutdowns are attempts to keep inventory in line with sales.

Automakers slated production of 121,895 units last week, 17.84 percent below the previous week's 148,358 and 11.40 percent below the year-ago week's 137,579. The year-ago week was also a holiday week.

So far this year, 3,285,757 cars have been assembled, 4.69 percent more than the 3,138,419 completed last year at this point.

Last week's targeted build was shared as follows: General Motors, 47.43 percent; Ford Motor Co., 23.03 percent; Chrysler Motors, 14.44 percent; Honda of America Manufacturing, 4.96 percent; Mazda Motor Manufacturing (U.S.A.) Corp., 2.89 percent; New United Motor Manufacturing Inc., 2.63 percent; Toyota Motor Manufacturing U.S.A., 2.06 percent; Nissan Motor Manufacturing Co. U.S.A., 1.62 percent; and Diamond-Star Motors, 0.94 percent.

Scheduled truck assembly last week totaled 73,213 units, 15.67 percent below the previous week's 86,817 and down 0.10 percent from the year-ago week's 73,284.

GM's Reatta Craft Centre in Lansing, Mich., shut down today and will remain closed until Aug. 11 for model changeover.

As reported earlier, GM's Willow Run, Mich., plant is idle for model changeover until December.

Ford closed its Wayne, Mich., plant today due to high inventory of Escort. The plant is expected to resume operations June 12. Ford's Edison, N.J., plant remains idle until June 12 because of high inventories. Like Wayne, Edison produces Escort.

Ford slated overtime last Saturday at its Wayne, Mich., truck plant.

Results mixed in Canada

Canadian automakers targeted car production last week at 22,440, up 19.91 percent over the previous week's 18,714 but down 15.51 percent from the year-ago week's 26,559.

So far this year, 437,534 cars have been produced, 15.80 percent fewer than the 519,665 completed last year at this point.

Truck output was scheduled to reach 21,347 units last week, 6.43 percent over the prior week's 20,058 and 7.64 percent over the year-ago week's 19,832.

Year-to-date, 442,466 trucks have been built, 5.40 percent more than the 419,782 assembled last year at this time.

U.S. CAR	Week Ended June 3, 1989	Week Ended June 4, 1988	Week Ended May 27, 1989	May Est.	Jan. 1 to June 3, 1989	Jan. 1 to June 4, 1988
Horizon	600	1,763	780	3,609	7,854	41,694
Sundance	2,000	2,617	2,573	11,588	52,093	46,105
Reliant	0	2,584	0	0	0	45,289
Acclaim	2,800	0	2,807	13,041	54,070	0
Caravelle	0	469	0	0	0	9,504
Gran Fury	0	363	0	0	0	5,756
Total Plymouth	5,400	7,796	6,160	28,238	114,017	148,348
LeBaron K	0	0	0	0	0	8,205
LeBaron J	2,100	2,438	2,776	12,537	52,707	32,866
LeBaron GTS	0	294	0	0	2,946	4,022
N. Yorker C-Class	1,300	2,255	1,812	8,677	49,273	52,061
Fifth Avenue	0	187	0	0	0	13,965
Total Chrysler	3,400	5,174	4,588	21,214	104,926	109,419
Omni	900	1,689	1,010	4,433	9,443	41,459
Daytona	1,400	2,249	1,869	8,361	44,865	32,001
Shadow	1,700	2,383	2,238	9,935	50,640	48,883
Aries	0	1,968	0	0	0	38,519
Dodge 600	0	450	0	0	0	8,292
Dynasty	2,300	1,860	3,038	14,711	69,735	48,751
Lancer	0	167	0	0	1,528	4,700
Spirit	2,500	0	2,637	11,785	50,291	0
Diplomat	0	248	0	0	0	10,161
Total Dodge	8,800	11,014	10,792	49,225	226,502	232,766
CHRYSLER MOTORS	17,600	23,984	21,540	98,677	445,15	490,533
Escort	4,384	8,791	4,131	32,557	149,243	165,379
Mustang	3,471	3,457	5,480	18,725	100,887	93,517
Tempo	2,370	3,251	2,978	13,041	69,548	87,810
Taurus	6,373	6,762	7,970	35,699	173,482	177,916
Thunderbird	2,688	3,046	3,241	14,177	75,705	70,922
Total Ford Div.	19,286	25,307	23,800	114,199	568,865	595,544
Topaz	1,123	1,167	1,425	6,988	31,256	32,684
Cougar	1,797	2,000	2,167	11,720	64,044	53,172
Sable	2,025	2,220	2,531	11,524	56,612	62,402
Total Mercury	4,945	5,387	6,123	30,232	151,912	148,258
Continental	1,152	878	1,440	6,443	31,807	20,246
Mark VII	384	446	479	1,805	11,414	11,220
Lincoln	2,304	2,680	2,881	12,112	58,667	64,983
Total Lincoln	3,840	4,004	4,800	20,361	101,888	96,449
Total L-M Division	8,785	9,391	10,923	50,593	253,800	244,707
FORD MOTOR CO.	28,071	34,698	34,723	164,792	822,665	840,251
Skyhawk	0	0	248	1,122	6,857	11,350
Skylark/Somerset	1,126	1,141	1,382	6,288	25,514	20,468
Century	2,224	2,956	2,810	11,959	53,974	46,459
Riviera	179	136	0	1,093	10,597	3,049
Electra	1,542	2,187	2,298	8,086	37,787	38,334
LeSabre (fwd)	3,248	2,006	4,385	20,555	68,353	56,186
LeSabre (rwd)	68	216	64	312	3,587	4,470
Reatta	147	129	200	690	3,141	2,488
Total Buick	8,534	8,771	11,387	50,105	209,810	182,804
Cimarron	0	0	0	0	0	3,696
Eldorado	789	1,034	0	3,364	17,090	18,819
Seville	573	607	0	2,470	12,557	11,771
Brougham (rwd)	512	884	624	2,794	17,426	16,802
Deville (fwd)	3,284	2,833	4,219	18,594	97,153	80,506
Allante	60	52	75	261	1,438	1,079
Total Cadillac	5,218	5,410	4,918	27,484	145,664	132,673
Cavalier	6,566	6,412	6,873	35,296	173,450	154,179
Camaro	2,296	1,967	2,758	12,391	55,153	37,676
Celebrity	1,704	4,135	1,980	8,969	59,676	79,623
Corsica/Beretta	7,172	7,411	8,962	38,645	185,554	178,941
Caprice	3,240	3,889	4,062	18,183	89,044	85,167
Corvette	448	357	560	2,509	11,577	9,392
Total Chevrolet	21,426	24,171	25,195	115,995	574,454	545,178
Calais	1,754	3,379	2,136	9,784	43,005	51,165
Firenza	0	0	0	0	0	5,220
Cutlass Ciera	1,556	1,073	1,884	8,405	38,009	2,955
Cutlass Supreme	2,956	3,215	3,558	16,121	51,563	92,120
Toronado	251	423	0	745	4,506	8,266
88 (fwd)	2,298	2,832	2,880	18,087	73,002	73,794
88 (rwd)	216	132	179	892	3,620	5,602
Olds 98	876	1,305	1,117	4,686	37,717	36,872
Total Oldsmobile	9,907	12,359	11,754	58,718	251,422	275,994
Sunbird	2,482	2,163	3,147	15,189	68,069	47,782
Grand Am	3,840	4,108	4,884	23,089	110,608	108,219
Firebird	1,120	1,317	1,291	5,824	30,694	28,176
Grand Prix	3,272	2,959	4,000	17,963	69,649	53,856
Pontiac 6000	760	1,261	1,130	5,552	38,796	34,862
Bonneville	1,152	2,168	762	8,216	43,549	49,342
Safari/Parisienne	92	117	151	612	2,504	4,003
Fiero	0	0	0	0	0	8,647
Total Pontiac	12,718	14,093	15,365	76,446	363,869	334,887
GENERAL MOTORS	57,803	64,804	68,619	328,748	1,545,219	1,471,596
DIAMOND-STAR	1,151	0	1,510	5,588	20,128	0
HONDA	6,050	5,934	7,699	34,595	167,564	160,988
Civic	2,157	1,816	2,569	11,653	56,586	42,696
Accord	3,893	4,118	5,130	22,942	110,978	118,292
MAZDA	3,527	1,750	4,415	19,914	102,938	36,973
NISSAN	1,976	2,110	2,708	11,175	50,001	42,766
NUMMI	3,200	2,669	4,184	18,847	86,449	70,292
Corolla	1,280	986	1,642	7,346	35,069	25,826
Geo Prizm/Nova	1,920	1,683	2,542	11,501	51,380	44,466
TOYOTA	2,517	0	2,960	11,431	45,348	0
VOLKSWAGEN	0	1,630	0	0	0	25,080
Golf/GTI	0	1,630	0	0	0	19,527
Jetta	0	0	0	0	0	5,553
Total Cars, U.S.	121,895	137,579	148,358	693,766	3,285,757	3,138,419
Total Cars, Canada	22,440	26,559	18,714	91,604	437,534	519,665
U.S., Canada Cars	144,335	164,138	167,072	785,370	3,723,291	3,658,084
U.S., Canada Cars and Trucks	238,895	257,254	273,947	1,279,130	6,122,003	5,926,390

Monthly estimates may contain error of one or two units due to rounding.
1—Total includes the MX-6 and Ford Probe.

CANADIAN CAR	Week Ended June 3, 1989	Week Ended June 4, 1988	Week Ended May 27, 1989	May Est.	Jan. 1 to June 3, 1989	Jan. 1 to June 4, 1988
Premier	0	1,554	1,398	3,749	18,634	31,984
CHRYSLER MOTORS	0	1,554	1,398	3,749	18,634	31,984
Tempo	2,686	3,543	2,654	7,640	65,418	90,249
Topaz	1,440	1,334	1,135	3,443	27,967	30,137
Crown Victoria	2,650	2,836	2,283	12,644	58,836	61,186
Grand Marquis	2,582	2,894	2,233	12,398	64,668	60,823
FORD MOTOR CO.	9,360	10,607	8,305	36,125	216,889	242,395
Celebrity	989	658	799	3,561	7,848	9,437
Cutlass Ciera	2,571	7,642	2,061	12,203	75,337	121,154
Lumina	5,546	0	3,114	17,818	41,232	0
Pontiac 6000	0	1,492	0	0	0	23,708
Regal	1,794	3,362	1,448	8,474	33,836	72,688
GENERAL MOTORS	10,900	13,154	7,422	42,056	158,253	226,987
HONDA	1,650	1,064	1,177	7,253	35,652	15,299
TOYOTA	350	0	268	1,629	4,323	0
VOLVO	180	180	144	792	3,783	3,000
Total Cars, Canada	22,440	26,559	18,714	91,604	437,534	519,665

U.S. TRUCK☆	Week Ended June 3, 1989	Week Ended June 4, 1988	Week Ended May 27, 1989	May Est.	Jan. 1 to June 3, 1989	Jan. 1 to June 4, 1988
Caravan	2,000	2,416	2,047	10,396	49,410	44,038
Dakota	2,100	1,728	2,258	10,924	50,408	51,712
Caravan C/V	100	265	103	513	3,997	6,957
Ram pickups	2,200	1,724	2,263	11,021	50,543	30,405
Total Dodge	6,400	6,133	6,671	32,854	154,358	133 112
Cherokee	4,500	3,631	4,568	23,056	103,267	79,660
Comanche	400	819	574	2,673	14,347	20,890
Grand Wagoneer	300	280	350	880	6,073	6,600
Wagoneer	100	249	109	537	4,006	5,705
Total Jeep	5,300	4,979	5,601	27,146	127,693	118,055
Voyager	1,800	2,154	1,933	9,669	46,939	40,780
Town & Country	100	0	163	568	608	0
Total C-P Div.	1,900	2,154	2,096	10,237	47,547	40,780
CHRYSLER MOTORS	13,600	13,266	14,368	70,237	329,598	291,947
Aerostar	4,000	2,845	5,015	22,309	108,779	96,658
Bronco	1,398	1,042	1,407	7,015	37,517	27,043
Bronco II	1,940	1,944	2,428	11,206	58,060	60,388
Econoline	4,202	4,057	5,219	23,295	109,503	109,651
Heavy trucks	1,043	1,348	1,303	5,888	30,100	30,489
Light trucks	9,095	8,174	11,398	53,769	245,688	225,874
Ranger	4,839	6,374	5,933	27,982	152,937	161,308
Total Ford Div.	26,517	25,784	32,703	151,464	740,584	711,411
FORD MOTOR CO.	26,517	25,784	32,703	151,464	740,584	711,411
Astro	2,506	3,255	3,377	15,153	75,319	75,438
Blazer	547	471	529	2,661	12,494	12,136
Mediums/Heavies	0	320	0	0	1,312	7,979
P-Model	787	659	831	3,954	15,450	17,148
Pickups	6,549	5,835	8,026	35,820	176,843	146,828
S-10	4,028	5,444	5,076	22,233	120,303	127,626
S-10 Blazer	3,126	3,316	3,990	17,521	84,688	72,340
Sportsvan/Van	1,634	1,883	1,950	9,705	43,792	37,622
Suburban	1,544	1,098	1,526	7,508	34,831	32,249
Total Chevrolet	20,721	22,281	25,305	114,556	565,032	529,366
Jimmy	171	58	177	837	3,778	3,714
Mediums/Heavies	0	523	0	0	1,496	17,771
P-Model	93	156	138	519	2,032	2,546
Pickups	1,931	1,714	2,227	9,898	52,768	45,780
S-15	867	1,229	991	4,990	28,165	29,698
S-15 Jimmy	895	837	1,031	5,011	24,224	18,969
Safari	683	794	951	4,078	19,319	19,368
Suburban	611	494	578	2,947	13,981	15,313
Vandura/Rally Vans	488	562	572	2,638	11,918	16,295
Total GMC	5,739	6,367	6,665	30,916	157,681	169,454
GENERAL MOTORS	26,460	28,648	31,970	145,472	722,713	698,820
NAVISTAR	1,536	1,504	1,920	8,469	38,549	38,564
NISSAN	2,240	1,332	2,406	10,308	55,572	49,832
AM GENERAL	360	450	450	2,016	9,630	9,810
MISCELLANEOUS	2,500	2,300	3,000	13,500	59,600	50,140
Total Trucks, U.S.	73,213	73,284	86,817	401,466	1,956,246	1,850,524

CANADIAN TRUCK	Week Ended June 3, 1989	Week Ended June 4, 1988	Week Ended May 27, 1989	May Est.	Jan. 1 to June 3, 1989	Jan. 1 to June 4, 1988
Caravan	3,108	2,898	2,744	13,032	66,780	65,684
Caravan C/V	378	318	397	1,543	5,507	6,408
Ram Wagon	705	569	818	3,152	13,273	10,888
Ram Van	1,645	1,465	2,044	7,898	34,174	28,025
Total Dodge	5,836	5,250	6,003	25,625	119,734	111,005
Voyager	2,658	2,604	3,112	12,013	58,821	60,178
Total Plymouth	2,658	2,604	3,112	12,013	58,821	60,178
Wrangler	1,910	781	2,056	8,268	36,930	22,284
Total Jeep	1,910	781	2,056	8,268	36,930	22,284
CHRYSLER MOTORS	10,404	8,635	11,171	45,905	215,485	193,467
FORD MTR. (lt. trks.)	3,648	3,602	2,817	15,656	75,593	77,926
Light trucks	3,549	1,312	2,779	14,243	68,772	68,099
Vans	1,463	1,719	1,106	5,742	29,593	26,956
Total Chevrolet	5,012	3,031	3,885	19,985	98,365	95,055
Light trucks	1,331	3,710	1,459	6,695	32,995	33,552
Vans	682	589	545	2,899	14,538	14,937
Total GMC	2,013	4,299	2,004	9,594	47,533	48,489
GENERAL MOTORS	7,025	7,330	5,889	29,579	145,898	143,544
NAVISTAR	270	265	181	1,154	5,490	4,845
Total Trks., Canada	21,347	19,832	20,058	92,294	442,466	419,782
U.S., Canada Trks.	94,560	93,116	106,875	493,760	2,398,712	2,270,306

☆—Includes window van production. *—Estimates.
Jeep includes commercial only. AM General includes government-contract vehicles.
Miscellaneous includes estimates for Mack, Volvo-White, Kenworth, Peterbilt, Freightliner, Mercedes-Benz, etc.
Monthly estimates may contain error of one or two units due to rounding.